

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-7-53-23

Issued at: Homer, Thursday, August 3, 2023

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 13, 2023, unless superseded by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the season open for personal use sockeye salmon fishing in China Poot Creek through Sunday, August 13, 2023.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 77.545(a) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, August 8 through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 13, 2023:

5 AAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan.

(a) In China Poot Creek, upstream from ADF&G regulatory markers, sockeye salmon may be taken by dip net from July 1 through August 13, with a bag and possession limit of 6 fish. King, pink, chum, and coho salmon may not be retained or possessed. All king, pink, chum, and coho salmon caught must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Holly Dickson

Holly Dickson

Lower Cook Inlet Sport Fish Assistant Area Manager

JUSTIFICATION:

Sockeye salmon have been stocked in Leisure Lake at the headwaters of China Poot Creek since 1976 with the intention of supplementing commercial catches in Kachemak Bay. Sockeye salmon that escape the commercial fishery and reach China Poot Creek are stopped from reaching Leisure Lake by the barrier falls in the creek and are available for harvest by dipnetters in the fresh waters of the creek.

On August 3, 2023, a stream survey was conducted in China Poot Creek and more than 500 sockeye salmon were counted. There were very few pink salmon present. In order to maximize harvest opportunity of stocked sockeye salmon in this terminal fishery, while minimizing impact to wild pink salmon, it is justified to extend the season of the personal use fishery through August 13.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.